



President James B. Milliken

October 3, 2025

Office of the President
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Oakland, Ca 94607

universityofcalifornia.edu

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Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources

Dear Chancellors:

As you know, next Tuesday marks the second anniversary of the October 7 terrorist attacks on Israel and the start of the ongoing war in Israel and Gaza — events that have deeply and personally affected members of the UC community over the last two years.

I am writing to ask that every campus prepare for the likelihood of demonstrations, counter-demonstrations, and coordinated public activities associated with this anniversary. All UC campuses were involved in efforts last year to ensure a consistent and appropriate response to protests and other expressive activities by enforcing uniform policies, including Time, Place, and Manner (TPM) policies. It is essential that all campuses are prepared to enforce these policies to ensure that expressive activities occur lawfully, safely, pursuant to university policy, and without disruption to essential university functions, while also respecting lawful speech and assembly. UC campus policies create a legally sound framework for managing expressive activities regardless of content, helping us protect both free expression and campus order.

In addition, I am asking each campus to take the following actions in advance of October 7:

- Clearly communicate that individuals and organizations must follow campus processes for scheduling and conducting expressive activities.
- Remind student organizations, faculty groups, and external parties that following TPM and conduct policies is mandatory and that violations may lead to sanctions, up to and including removal from campus or disciplinary measures.
- Instruct your chief of campus safety, legal counsel, and student affairs offices to review campus readiness before October 7. This should include assessing staffing levels, emergency response protocols, crowd management strategies, and coordination with local law enforcement when appropriate.
- Monitor planned events and online communications to anticipate activities ahead of time, allowing for early and effective intervention or mitigation.

This moment calls for our collective vigilance and proactive efforts to protect both free expression and the safety of our communities. Enforcing policies that apply to expressive activities is not an attempt to suppress viewpoints. Rather, it is our responsibility to see that we ensure the right to free expression and at the same time protect public safety, keep university operations running, and preserve community well-being.

Thank you for your leadership in maintaining safe and vibrant campus environments during this time.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.B. Milliken', with a stylized, flowing script.

James B. Milliken
President

cc: Division Leaders